

curriculum. 32 high school students constructed a multi-level, four-bedroom home, which Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity sold to a local family in need of safe and affordable housing. In doing so the students mastered the skills needed for their post-graduation trades careers.

It is because of community projects like Building New Opportunities that make me proud to represent Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor Rockford's "Building New Opportunities" for being awarded the 2020 Governor's Hometown Project Award for their efforts in the community.

IN HONOR OF WILLIE JAMES
"BILL" MCNAIR

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of Willie James "Bill" McNair, Sr. who passed away after a long and fruitful life at 102 years of age on September 26, 2021, in Port Saint Joe Florida.

Mr. McNair served honorably in the U.S. Army during World War II and was a member of VFW Post 10069. On his return from service, he served for 30 years as a mail carrier for the St. Joe Paper Company. As a licensed chauffeur, Mr. McNair also drove top executives to and from the airport before retiring in 1981.

Willie James McNair Sr. celebrated his 100th birthday in July 2019 with more than 200 family members and friends, including the last of Mr. McNair's surviving siblings, Mildred 98 and Mercedes 96 years old at that time. All three siblings share the same birthday—July 16th, born two years apart.

Mr. McNair was presented with a commemoration for his birthday signifying his service on the Trustee Board of Zion Fair Missionary Baptist Church and another honoring his service to the community.

Madam Speaker, again, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the long life of Willie James "Bill" McNair, Sr.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 35TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF
ACADEMY HILL SCHOOL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Academy Hill School on celebrating their 35th anniversary. This milestone achievement deserves the highest praise for the hard work and dedication of the school's faculty and staff, as well as those students whose remarkable commitment to learning has played a pivotal role in the school's success.

Although established in 1986, the Academy Hill School began operating in 1979, offering enrichment classes to gifted students throughout the Greater Springfield community. Two years after opening their full-time day school

in 1986, the Academy Hill Center for Gifted Children was incorporated as a non-profit organization. Over the next three decades, Academy Hill would grow and expand their campus, relocating to their current location on Liberty Street in Springfield, and nearly doubling their total enrollment in their K-8 program. This past year has reminded us of the critical role our schools play in our children's lives, with millions of educators across the country taking on the tremendous responsibility of providing our students equitable educational opportunities in a safe and healthy environment. Therefore, I cannot think of a more appropriate occasion to celebrate all that the Academy Hill School has accomplished over the past 35 years.

Madam Speaker, I would like to once again congratulate the Academy Hill School on celebrating their 35th anniversary, and thank them for continuing to inspire our students. Academy Hill is a cherished member of Massachusetts' First District, and I wish them many more years of success and prosperity.

HONORING ELBA GONZALEZ-
MARES

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Elba Gonzalez-Mares in celebration of her 15th anniversary at Community Health Initiative (CHI) in Napa County.

Born in Puebla, Mexico, Ms. Gonzalez-Mares moved to California when she was just a year old, and now lives in Napa, California. She attended the University of California, Davis where she received her bachelor's degree in international relations in 2005. After finding her passion for helping the most vulnerable in her community, Ms. Gonzalez-Mares began working as a health access assistant at Community Health Initiative, a non-profit organization dedicated to enrolling families in affordable health insurance plans. She then became the coordinator and manager for the organization before working her way up to becoming the executive director. She has expanded CHI from serving only the Napa community to serving several counties throughout California. As a result of her commitment to aiding underprivileged communities, Ms. Gonzalez-Mares has helped thousands of individuals and families gain access to quality health care coverage.

In addition to serving in her various roles at CHI, Ms. Gonzalez-Mares has held numerous positions dedicated to helping underserved communities. She became the board chair of California Coverage and Health Initiatives (CCHI), a statewide association that helps families navigate through affordable healthcare services. Ms. Gonzalez-Mares became commissioner for First 5 Napa County, a nonprofit that provides support services for early childhood development. She was also elected as the president of the Napa Valley Unified School District Board of Trustees. Ms. Gonzalez-Mares is a member of the Community Leaders Coalition, an organization that advocates for vulnerable populations within the Napa County community. Additionally, Ms.

Gonzalez-Mares has assisted in creating a model for organizations similar to CHI to help individuals enroll in health care coverage and access health care services.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Ms. Gonzalez-Mares has selflessly dedicated her career to helping Napa's most vulnerable communities. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, on October 20, 2021, I was not present for the vote on H.R. 3635, the Strengthening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act of 2021. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted in favor of the legislation.

CONGRATULATING MOUNT
CARROLL'S ARBOR DAY
PALOOZA FOR RECEIVING THE
2020 GOVERNOR'S HOMETOWN
PROJECT AWARD

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mount Carroll's "Arbor Day Palooza" for its effort to replace trees that were lost to bugs, disease and storms. The organization received the 2020 Governor's Hometown Project Award for the incredible work it has done for the community.

The idea for "Arbor Day Palooza" was born from a desire to retain the character of the town, as it has been recognized as a Tree City for over 26 years. The city created a Tree Replacement Fund and the community bought in with many volunteers and donors coming forward to assist. In total, the project received over \$13,000 in donations used to plant 52 new trees on city property, hold an Arbor Day tree planting ceremony in the new Stone House Memorial Park and host a tour of the Stone House site.

It is because of events like "Arbor Day Palooza" and their organizers that make me proud to represent Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally honor "Arbor Day Palooza" for being awarded the 2020 Governor's Hometown Project Award for their efforts in the community.

RECOGNIZING THE DELAWARE
RIVER BASIN COMMISSION FOR
THEIR 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Delaware River Basin Commission. Founded in 1961, this collaborative partnership between the federal government and the four states which share the

Delaware River has successfully managed interstate water sources without regard to political boundaries. For nearly six million Pennsylvanians living in the Delaware River Basin, including those in Bucks and Montgomery counties, the Commission has reduced water loss, improved water quality, mitigated floods, and conducted stewardship and education efforts, all while saving the taxpayers millions of dollars. The Delaware River Basin Commission's efficient and beneficial public service is admirable, and this year, as it celebrates its 60th anniversary, we express our appreciation for the impact that it has had on our environment and natural habitats, our region, and our local communities.

MAYOR TIFFANY GRAHAM

HON. CORI BUSH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Ms. BUSH. Madam Speaker, I offer the family, friends, constituents, and entire St. Louis community of Mayor Tiffany Graham, my deepest condolences as I share the pain of this untimely loss.

Mayor Graham was best known for her relentless commitment to her community and everyone around her. She personified the role of a public servant wonderfully and was dedicated to doing the best for her residents. She never hesitated to go above and beyond to make sure those she served got her very best every single day.

The impact of her work reverberates throughout the Greendale community and beyond. May we honor her life and legacy by living the way she lived hers, with an unyielding commitment to service.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
POLICE CHIEF STEVEN PARKER

HON. RALPH NORMAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Steven Parker, a beloved community leader and Police Chief of the Tega Cay Police Department.

Chief Parker has dedicated nearly three decades of his life to protecting communities throughout North and South Carolina. He began his law enforcement career at the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office twenty-eight years ago. In 1995, he transferred to the Rock Hill Police Department where he served in various divisions, including: Training, Investigations, Patrol, Traffic, K-9, and Narcotics. Throughout his twenty years of unparalleled service at the Rock Hill Police Department, the agency received numerous accolades and recognitions, including CALEA National Honors, AAA Outstanding Traffic Safety Community Award, and the SWAT South East National Championships. Chief Parker's time at the Rock Hill Police Department ended with him commanding over 150 employees as Major over Field Services.

In 2015, Chief Parker became the Police Chief of the Tega Cay Police Department.

Under his leadership, the Tega Cay Police Department attained South Carolina Accreditation status for the first time in its history. The City of Tega Cay was also ranked "The Top 3 Safest City" in South Carolina for seven years in a row and "The 64th Safest City" in the United States, all while growing at a rapid pace. Chief Parker also managed the design and construction of a new state of the art police station while serving and protecting over 12,000 citizens.

Throughout Chief Parker's tenure as Police Chief of the Tega Cay Police Department, he emphasized the importance of building trust and community relationships. Leading by example, Chief Parker and the rest of the Tega Cay Police Department support the Special Olympics each year by organizing an annual Torch Run, Donut Eating Contest, and Polar Plunge.

The career of Chief Parker is a testament to all the good our men and women in blue do for our communities. A true servant-leader, he leaves behind a legacy of progress and success. On behalf of the 5th District of South Carolina, I thank Chief Parker for his service and wish him all the best in his future endeavors. Tega Cay has truly been blessed to have him as a community guardian for the past seven years.

RECOGNIZING THE PIERMONT
FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR
HEROIC RESCUE RESPONSES TO
HURRICANE IDA

HON. MONDAIRE JONES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, in early September, our communities in Westchester and Rockland suffered immensely in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, with flooded basements, damaged homes, and, tragically, lives lost. I witnessed the damage firsthand, touring some of our hardest hit communities and thanking our brave first responders, including the Village of Piermont Fire Department, whose marine diver unit rescued dozens of Rocklanders from the floors. I am devastated for all those impacted by this disaster, and I will not stop working until our communities have fully rebuilt.

The Piermont Fire Department responded bravely to over 30 emergencies within Rockland County. During the height of the storm, the Piermont Dive Team heroically assisted in multiple water search and rescue efforts. 22 cars were searched by Fire Department members in Rockland, including a dive operation in the Village of Spring Valley on a car that was submerged in 7.5 feet of water.

While the Dive Team responded to water rescues, other members of the Piermont Fire Department responded to emergencies such as flooding conditions, roadway hazards, downed trees and wires, and an unmanned boat throughout Rockland County. The rescue teams went to Sparkill, Tappan, and West Nyack to respond to vehicles in the water with trapped victims inside. All victims were rescued safely thanks to the heroic efforts of the Fire Department volunteers.

Many lives were saved by the brave volunteers of the Piermont Fire Department. Our

community is forever grateful for their tireless work to keep us safe. I would like to recognize and thank the following people for their bravery: Chief Samuel Kropp, Jerry Albes, Daniel Albin, Donna Alise, James Alise, Mya Alise, Andrew Baez, Alan Bartley, Mike Bettman, Amy Blomquist, Mark Blomquist, Frank Bockowski, Larry Cabrera, Mark Carlucci, William Cavanaugh, Joan Chadwick, Bernard Comiskey, Phil Esnard, Elizabeth Fagan, Kevin Fagan, Alexandra Gatti, Nick Gatti, Candace Goswick, Daniel Goswick Sr., Daniel Goswick Jr., Hope Goswick, Erika Gould, Donald Hardy, Donna Hardy, Chris Healy, Bill Hickey, John Hickey, Patrick Krummack, Reese McNichol, Nathan Mitchell, Stephen Moscatello, Ernie Nieves, Julie Pagliaroli, Joseph Palkovic, Tim Piesco, Dennis Plunkett, Max Reiter, Chris Sanders, Mary Saunders, Michael Saunders, Richard Scully, Samantha Scully, Brandi Silva, Scott Silva, Al Sisolak, Matt Stevenson, Santina Stevenson, Tim Temple, Tom Temple, Chris Ward, Kyle Weiss, and Noah Weiss.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF CLARA DOUTLY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 20, 2021

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Clara Doutly, a lifelong resident of Detroit, Michigan on the occasion of her 100th birthday. Her contributions to our community as a Rosie the Riveter are worthy of commendation.

Born at Herman Keifer Hospital in Detroit, Michigan, she was the youngest of six siblings. She fondly remembers summers spent at Green Pastures Camp, a successful program of the Detroit Urban League for children to spend time in the great outdoors. An excellent student, she attended the prestigious Cass Technical High School. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the subsequent entrance of the United States into World War II, Mrs. Doutly heard the call and started working at Briggs Manufacturing Company in Detroit, making parts for the B-29 bomber aircraft. She worked there as a riveter from 1942 until the end of the war in 1945. As a Rosie, Clara's hard work, grit, and patriotism not only sustained the American war effort, but paved a path for the next generation of working women.

Now a member of the American Rosie the Riveter Association, she seeks to preserve and celebrate the legacy of the Rosies. Through her membership, she's been able to board the first ever Rosie the Riveter Honor Flight to Washington, D.C., participate in the Detroit Thanksgiving Day Parade, and has been featured in National Geographic—including in the June 2020 issue commemorating the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II.

Full of life and joy, even at age 100, Mrs. Doutly's sayings and stories are legendary among those who know her. She is a living witness to history and loves to talk about her experiences during World War II. She talks of the days of Detroit's Paradise Valley, where she enjoyed the renowned musicians and nightlife. After the war ended, she married Sylvester Doutly and worked at Detroit Public